MARVEL

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PIRZADA
MORTARINO
TARTAGLIA

CULT OF CARNAGE

MISERY

LIZ ALLAN IS THE **C.E.O. OF ALCHEMAX** AND THE WIDOW OF **HARRY OSBORN**, THE SON OF **SPIDER-MAN'S** FOREMOST FOE, **NORMAN OSBORN, A.K.A. THE GREEN GOBLIN**. THROUGH A TRAGIC SERIES OF EVENTS INVOLVING SPIDER-MAN, HARRY WAS KILLED. NOW LIZ HAS TO RAISE THEIR SON **NORMIE** AND HIS HALF BROTHER, **STANLEY**, ON HER OWN, ALL WHILE RUNNING ALCHEMAX AND OVERSEEING THEIR COVERT EXPERIMENTS ON DANGEROUS PARASITIC ALIENS CALLED **SYMBIOTES**.

A DISGRUNTLED FORMER ALCHEMAX EMPLOYEE, **CORWIN JONES**, BROKE INTO ALCHEMAX TO STEAL THE SYMBIOTES. HE SUCCEEDED IN ABSCONDING WITH ALL BUT TWO SYMBIOTE STRAINS--THE ONES KNOWN AS **CARNAGE** AND **ANTI-VENOM**. INSTEAD, THE TWO SYMBIOTES BONDED TO LIZ, TRANSFORMING HER INTO SOMETHING ALTOGETHER NEW...

CULT OF CARNAGE: MISERY

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THEN.

HE'S *KICKING!* LITTLE NORMIE MADE HIS FIRST KICK!

AND HIS SECOND. OOOH, THAT TICKLES.

HARRY? WHAT'S WRONG?

LIZ. BEFORE THE BABY ARRIVES, I THINK WE SHOULD TALK. MAKE A PLAN. IN CASE I... YOU KNOW.

IN CASE I RELAPSE.

HARRY, HAVE YOU BEEN FEELING TEMPTED LATELY?

NO, NO. NOTHING LIKE THAT. BUT MAYBE TOMORROW, I WILL BE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS. I HOPE I BECOME THE BEST FATHER WHO EVER LIVED.

BUT IF THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN. IF I GO ANOTHER WAY...

I KNOW YOU, LIZ. YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO SUPPORT ME. TO FIX ME.

I'M ASKING YOU NOT TO. FOR YOUR SAKE. FOR NORMIE'S SAKE. JUST TAKE HIM AND GO.

HARRY. TOGETHER, WE CAN SURVIVE ANYTHING. THAT'S WHAT MARRIAGE IS ABOUT.

LIZ, IF YOU STICK WITH ME WHEN I BECOME UNFIXABLE...

"...YOU'LL FEEL NOTHING BUT **MISERY** FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE."

ALCHEMAX. NOW.

LET'S GET YOU UP, DR. STEVEN. I'LL CALL THE FIRST-AID TEAM TO LOOK AT YOU.

I'M FINE, LIZ. YOU NEED TO STOP THAT MAN. HE TOOK THE SYMBIOTES--

DID YOU SEE HIS ARMOR? HE WAS ONE OF OUR GUARDSMEN. HE KNEW **EXACTLY** HOW TO HIT US--

AND YOU CAN HIT HIM **BACK**. YOU'VE GOT THE CARNAGE STRAIN AS WELL AS THE ANTI-VENOM. COMBINED? I EXPECT YOU'RE SOMETHING TO BE **FEARED**.

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT...

...BUT I HAVE NO IDEA HOW THIS SUIT--

HOO HOO!

--WORKS--!

HOO HOO! AHH! AHH!

OHH! HAH! AHH!

LIZ!

WELL, THIS...

...IS INTERESTING.

DOES IT WORK THE SAME WAY FOR YOU, GRACE?

RRAAAA--

HOO! HOO!

GUESS SO.

RECONSTITUTE YOUR PRINCIPAL BEING ALL YOU WANT, MY FAIR LADY, BUT YOU WILL NOT CAGE ME AGAIN.

YESTERDAY, YOUR VOCABULARY WASN'T SO EVOLVED. WHAT CHANGED? IT'S NOT THE SUIT.

MY ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE MY OWN. SIMPLY PUT, I'M A QUICK STUDY.

YOU'RE A CHIMPANZEE!

BRAAM

I AM A LIFE. AND YOU PRICKED AND PRODDED ME NEARLY TO DEATH. MY ONLY SOLACE? A SEDATIVE ADMINISTERED AT YOUR LEISURE.

ALL WITH GOOD INTENTIONS, MY DEAR. JUST TRYING TO CURE MILLIONS OF AILMENTS.

BUT IF YOU'RE AFTER A MORE PERMANENT MERCY, I CAN ACCOMMODATE.

I'VE HAD A VERY LONG DAY.

SMACK

POOM

POOM POOM POOM

STOP!

S-STANLEY...

"THAT WAS PRETTY SCARY, HUH?"

BUT THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT YOU'RE OKAY, STANLEY.

I'M SORRY, BABY. YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT. AND MY WORK IS SUPPOSED TO BE A SAFE PLACE FOR YOU.

I DIDN'T MEAN TO PUT YOU THROUGH THAT.

IT'S OKAY, AUNT LIZ.

I PROMISE. EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE NORMAL FROM HERE ON OUT.

AUNT LIZ?

...

LATER.

SHE WAS MORE ELOQUENT TODAY THAN THE LAST TIME I SAW HER, STEVE.

I UPGRADED HER VOICE COLLAR.

REGARDLESS, SHE'S RIGHT. WE'RE IMPRISONING HER. IT'S NOT RIGHT.

WE CAN LOOK INTO OTHER ARRANGEMENTS WHEN I'VE SAFELY REMOVED THE SYMBIOTES FROM HER.

AS FOR YOU, THE SYMBIOTE ISN'T HAVING ANY EFFECT ON YOUR BRAIN WHATSOEVER. I COMPARED IT AGAINST THE INFORMATION WE HAVE ON THE ONE HIDDEN SYMBIOTE STRAND THAT OUR FORMER GUARDSMAN, **CORWIN JONES**, DIDN'T GET.

YOU'RE SURE? THERE ISN'T SOME ALIEN VOICE TEMPTING ME INTO AGGRESSION?

I'M AFRAID IT'S JUST THE OPPOSITE. IT'S YOUR OWN AGGRESSION THAT'S ALLOWING YOU TO TAME THE SUIT.

THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT. I'M NOT... I DON'T **FEEL** AGGRESSIVE.

HOW'S STANLEY?

HARD TO SAY. HE DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS ME. I INTEND TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.

SO, YOU CAN REGENERATE AND RECOMBINE PARTS OF YOUR BODY--YOU'RE GETTING PRETTY GOOD AT RETRACTING YOUR SUIT. WE SHOULD RUN SOME TESTS TO SEE--

NO TIME, DOC. WE GOTTA GET THOSE SYMBIOTES BACK.

CHELSEA PIERS MARINA.

YOU'RE SURE THIS IS THE PLACE?

IT'S THE REGISTERED ADDRESS FROM JONES' EMPLOYMENT FORMS.

THE GUY LIVES ON A BOAT? WELL, I DOUBT IT'S EQUIPPED TO PROPERLY HOUSE SYMBIOTES...

...BUT HE DOES HAVE A CREEPY DOLL COLLECTION.

YOU ARE TRESPASSING.

A VERY CREEPY DOLL COLLECTION.

BOOOOM

LIZ? ARE YOU OKAY?

UNGH... YEAH, I...I THINK SO.

KEEP UP THE SEARCH.

YOU ARE TRESPASSING. YOU ARE--

"A MAN THIS DANGEROUS IS EXACTLY THE WRONG PERSON TO HAVE THE SYMBIOTES."

LOCATION UNKNOWN.

KOFF KOFF KOFF

KOFF KOFF KOFF

WHERE WAS I? OH, YEAH. SPECIAL DELIVERY FOR YOU.

I'M GONNA HAVE TO INVOICE YOU FOR MATERIALS. HAD TO BLOW UP HALF MY ARMOR JUST TO GET IN THE PLACE.

LUCKY THE SUIT HELD TOGETHER. GOTTA SAY, IT WAS FUN THOUGH. STOMPING ON MY CO-WORKERS WHO THOUGHT THEY WERE HOT $&%#.

MR. JONES. I WAS VERY CLEAR. YOU WERE NOT SUPPOSED TO HURT MS. ALLAN.

THAT HOT C.E.O.? SHE'LL BE FINE. IF SHE NEEDS A MASSAGE, I'M HAPPY TO OBLIGE.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM HER IN THE FUTURE.

I HAVE ENORMOUS RESPECT FOR MS. ALLAN, EVEN IF I DO DISAGREE WITH HER ON BUSINESS MATTERS.

CARLTON DRAKE, C.E.O., THE LIFE FOUNDATION.

STEALING HER POSSESSIONS OUT FROM UNDER HER? YOU CALL THAT *RESPECT?*

I CAN'T AFFORD TO LET HER FAIL. NOT WITH THESE.

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH 'EM?

I WAS HOPING YOU'D ASK.

THRUMMMMM

WE'RE USING SYMBIOTES TO THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.

ALL IT NEEDS IS SOMEONE TO WEAR IT.

LATER.

YOU HAD ME WORRIED. I OVERHEARD THE WORDS "EXPLOSION AT ALCHEMAX" AT WORK. THAT DIDN'T SOUND GOOD.

YOU FOUND OUT BEFORE THE LOCAL STATIONS DID, ZAFAR. I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN. WORD TRAVELS FAST WHEN YOU WORK IN AN E.R.

DO YOU EVER MISS IT? THE HOSPITAL LIFE?

WHICH PART?

ALL OF IT. THE LIFESTYLE. THE PACE. FIXING PEOPLE WITH YOUR HANDS.

IT'S NOT ALL GOOD MEMORIES. I MADE MISTAKES ALONG THE WAY. AND HONESTLY, MY HANDS NEVER KNEW WHAT THEY WERE DOING. NOT LIKE YOURS.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, LIZ? I WOULDN'T HAVE MADE IT THROUGH RESIDENCY WITHOUT YOU.

YOU WERE A NATURAL.

WE HAD OUR FUN, *HUH?*

WE WERE GOOD TOGETHER. THE PROBLEM WAS ALWAYS TIMING. BUT MAYBE THIS TIME, IT'S ACTUALLY LINING UP.

LIZ...

WAIT. I...

I'M SORRY. I'M NOT TRYING TO SEND YOU MIXED MESSAGES, ZAFAR. BECAUSE I *DO* LIKE YOU. IT'S SO GREAT TO RECONNECT. THIS...IT FEELS RIGHT.

BUT I'VE GOT TWO BOYS, AND THIS COMPANY, AND I STILL THINK ABOUT HARRY EVERY OTHER HOUR, IF I'M BEING HONEST.

I JUST... I NEED TO FIGURE SOME THINGS OUT FIRST.

I THINK I GET IT NOW. AT FIRST, I THOUGHT YOU MISSED THE HOSPITAL LIFE, BUT NOW...

...I THINK MAYBE YOU NEVER LEFT IT. YOU'RE STILL TRYING TO FIX EVERYONE HOWEVER YOU CAN.

AND I DON'T NEED FIXING. SO I'M ALWAYS GOING TO BE LOW ON YOUR LIST.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, LIZ.

"I NEED TO FIGURE SOME THINGS OUT"--WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?

12:34

2:11

Any update?

No leads yet on Corwin Jones. No chatter about symbiotes on the dark net, either.

2:28

3:03

$#@% IT.

THEY MUST ALL BE INSOMNIACS.

COME ON. CARNAGE CAN DO THIS.

NO REASON I--

SPLAT

HUH... THAT WAS... AWESOME.

"THE CARNAGE AND ANTI-VENOM STRAINS ARE CONSTANTLY AT WAR WITH EACH OTHER..."

THEY'RE DEVOURING PARTS OF ONE ANOTHER WHILE REGENERATING THEMSELVES. IT APPEARS YOUR BODY'S ALSO FAIR GAME NOW.

IF I CAN REGENERATE MY BODY AND SUIT, I CAN PROBABLY FORM NEW SHAPES OUT OF THE SUIT, TOO...

CORWIN JONES. MARINE CORPS SERVICE, SEMICONDUCTOR PATENTS.

I'LL RUN SOME PROJECTIONS. IN THE MEANTIME, I FOUND CORWIN JONES. TURNS OUT HE'S BEEN LIVING UNDER ANOTHER NAME, A PRESUMED-DEAD MISSING COLLEAGUE OF HIS FROM THE MARINES.

NOW THAT YOU FOUND HIM, SEE IF YOU CAN FIND OUT WHO ***THIS*** CALLER IS. HARRY HAD A SECRET PHONE. I'D LIKE TO KNOW ***WHY***, AND WHO THE CALLS WERE WITH.

I'LL GET ON IT. DO YOU WANT ME TO SEND A TEAM TO BRING JONES IN?

NO. DON'T.

CORW JONES
MARI E CORPS

I'LL HANDLE HIM MYSELF.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES, HUH?

I'M PARTIAL TO THE TAGALONGS MYSELF.

MIND IF I COME IN?

IT'S JUST YOU? DIDN'T BOTHER BRINGING YOUR ***TIN SOLDIERS*** SINCE I TRASHED 'EM?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

I'LL ADMIT, I THOUGHT ABOUT COMING IN GUNS BLAZING. BUT SOMETHING DIDN'T ADD UP. HITTING ALCHEMAX WAS A HIGH-PAYING JOB.

BUT YOU'RE NOT LIVING THE HIGH LIFE, ARE YOU?

THEN I FIGURED IT OUT. THE MILITARY POLITICS THAT DISCHARGED YOU, THEN THE FIGHT WITH THE V.A. OVER MEDICAL BILLS... IT ALL ADDS UP.

YOU'RE DYING.

YOU DON'T JUST RAID ALCHEMAX OUT OF THE BLUE. ***CARLTON DRAKE*** HIRED YOU, DIDN'T HE? BUT YOU'RE NOT SPENDING THE MONEY FROM THE JOB. YOU'RE TRYING TO TIE UP LOOSE ENDS BEFORE IT'S OVER.

I'M NOT COMING TO YOU AS A VENGEFUL C.E.O. OR THE OWNER OF A PRIVATE ARMY. I'M NOT LOOKING TO GET EVEN OVER WHAT YOU TOOK FROM ME.

I'M COMING TO YOU AS A NURSE. ONE WITH THE BEST CONNECTIONS AND RESOURCES IN THE STATE. ONE WHO ***CARES*** ABOUT HER EMPLOYEES.

LET ME ***HELP*** YOU, CORWIN.

STUPID #%@. WHEN I RAIDED ALCHEMAX, I BUGGED YOUR FRIEND'S WHEELCHAIR.

I KNEW I'D MISSED A COUPLE SYMBIOTES. IMAGINE MY SURPRISE WHEN I LEARNED THEY HAD BOTH BONDED TO ***YOU***.

I TELL YA, IT WAS ENOUGH TO DRIVE ME TO...

...MADNESS! YOU JUST MADE THE BIGGEST MISTAKE OF YOUR LIFE COMING HERE.

THAT WAS HILARIOUS, WATCHING YOU WALK IN HERE THINKING I NEEDED SOME KINDA HANDOUT.

SO EAGER TO HELP PEOPLE. SOMETHING I LEARNED EARLY IN LIFE, MS. ALLAN:

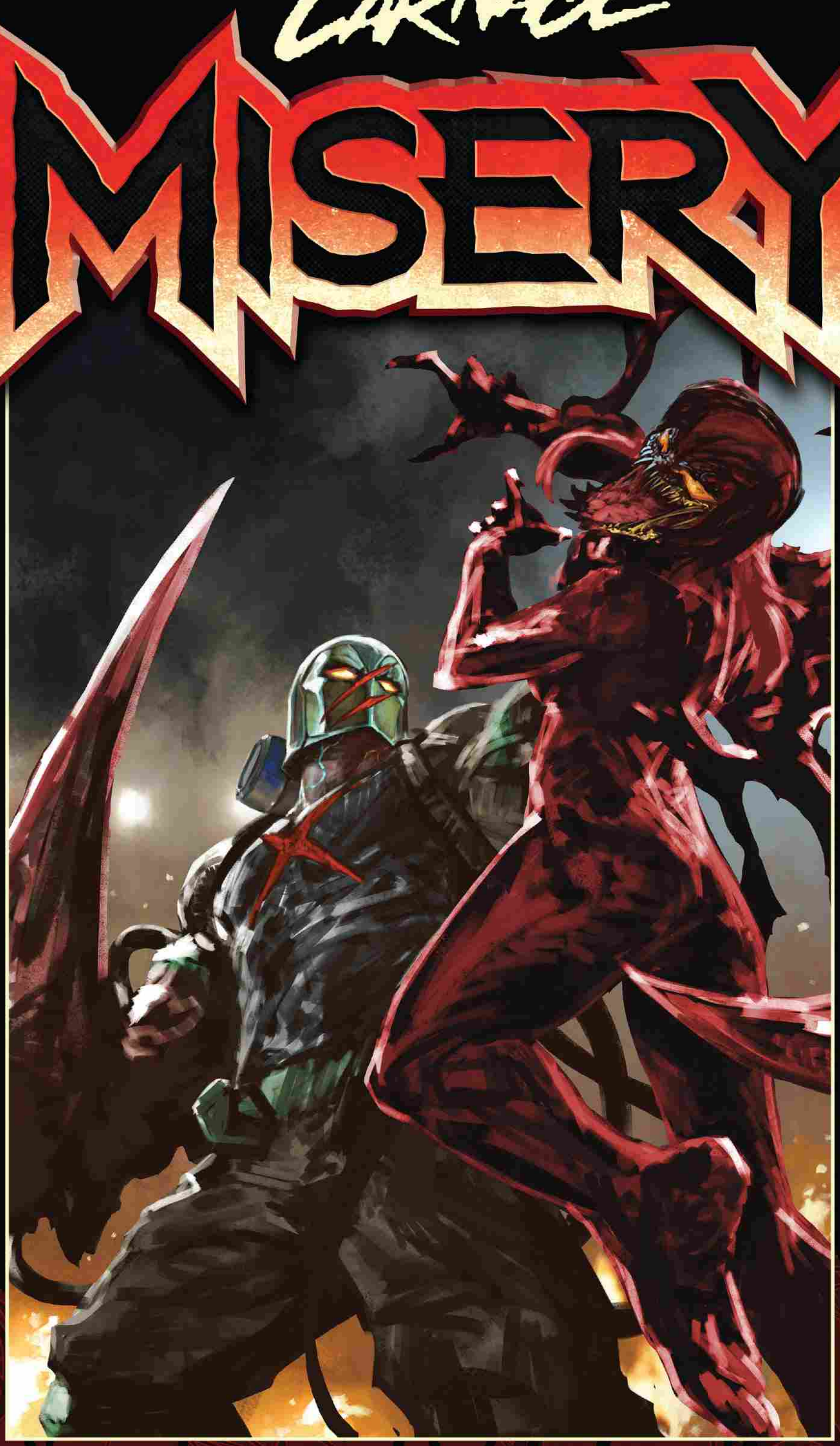
NO GOOD DEED...

...GOES UNPUNISHED.

TO BE CONTINUED.

CULT OF CARNAGE

MISERY



ISSUE #3

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THE LATEST SYMBIOTIC SPAWN'S DEBUT?! LET US KNOW AT **SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM**!

ZONE